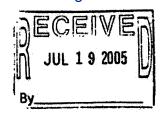
EXHIBIT O

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS **HOUSTON DIVISION**



FG HEMISPHERE ASSOCIATES, L.L.C. Plaintiff, REPUBLIQUE DU CONGO Defendant, and

CMS OIL AND GAS COMPANY, et. al.,

Putative Garnishees.

CIVIL ACTION No. H-02-4261

NOTICE OF CMS NOMECO CONGO INC., THE NUEVO CONGO COMPANY, AND NUEVO CONGO LTD. OF ANTICIPATED SALE AND TRANSFER OF WORKING INTERESTS

TO THE HONORABLE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT:

Garnishees CMS Nomeco Congo Inc., The Nuevo Congo Company, and Nuevo Congo Ltd. ("the Working Interest Owner Garnishees"), in accordance with this Court's prior Order dated May 20, 2003, hereby give notice to the Court and to the parties of their intention to sell and transfer their working interests under the Convention dated May 29, 1979 ("the Convention") for the production of oil in The Republic of Congo ("the Congo") and the Marine 1 Permit relating thereto.

- The Working Interest Owner Garnishees are holders of working interests under the Convention and Marine 1 Permit and are actively involved in the production of oil in Congolese waters pursuant thereto. CMS Nomeco Congo Inc. is the operator under the Convention and related Joint Operating Agreement.
- As shown by the copy letter attached hereto as Exhibit A, the Congolese 2. government has asserted that article 120 of the OHADA Uniform Act requires that the working interests under the Convention and Marine 1 Permit be held by Congolese companies. The

OHADA Treaty (Organisation for the Harmonisation of Business Law in Africa) is a regional treaty signed by 16 west African countries (including Congo) whose Uniform Acts prevail over individual national legislation. Under article 120 of the Uniform Act, a foreign company cannot continue to operate through a branch in the relevant OHADA country for more than 2 years without a Government waiver: the branch is thereafter required to be attached to a company governed by the laws of one of the countries which are party to the Treaty. Similar letters have been sent to other operators operating in the Congo. If the Working Interest Owner Garnishees fail to comply, there is the risk that the Congo will terminate the Convention, causing the Working Interest Owner Garnishees to lose their investment in the country.

- 3. Furthermore, beginning in January 2001 and continuing to the present, judgment creditors of the Congo have sought writs of garnishment against the Working Interest Owner Garnishees, seeking to garnish royalty obligations of the Working Interest Owner Garnishees to the Congo under the Convention. Additionally, judgment creditors in this and other litigation have sought to garnish the right of SNPC, the state-owned oil company of the Congo, to take working interest oil as a working interest owner under the Convention and Joint Operating Agreement.
- 4. On February 22, 2005, in Case No. A-01-CV-321-SS in the Western District of Texas ("the 321 Case"), a case in which the Working Interest Owner Garnishees are not parties, the Court entered a Turnover Order against the Congo (but not the Working Interest Owner Garnishees) which directed the Congo to issue an instruction letter to the Working Interest Owner Garnishees electing to take royalties under the Convention in cash and instructing the Working Interest Owner Garnishees to make royalty payments into the registry of the Court in the Western District. A copy of the Turnover Order entered in the 321 Case is attached hereto as

Exhibit B. A representative of the Congo notified the Court in the 321 Case by letter that the Congo considered the Turnover Order unenforceable under Congolese law and refused to sign the instruction letter. A copy of that letter is attached hereto as Exhibit C. Subsequently, the Court in the 321 Case entered an Order directing the clerk of the Court to sign the instruction letter on behalf of the Congo. A copy of that Order is attached hereto as Exhibit D. On April 8, 2005, the clerk of the Western District issued the instruction letter. A copy of the instruction letter is attached hereto as Exhibit E.

- In addition to the turnover relief sought in the 321 Case in the Western District, 5. FG Hemisphere also has sought a turnover order in this case, seeking the order not only against the Congo but also against the Working Interest Owner Garnishees.
- On July 4, 2005, a court in the Congo entered Orders against CMS Nomeco Congo Inc., holding that the U.S. court orders do not relieve CMS Nomeco Congo of its obligation as operator to deliver oil. Specifically, the court in the Congo held that the U.S. court orders are not enforceable under Congolese law. Copies of the Congo court orders, with certified translations thereof, are attached hereto as Exhibits F and G
- The facts and circumstances described above have caused CMS Nomeco Congo 7. Inc., The Nuevo Congo Company, and Nuevo Congo Ltd. to decide to sell their working interests under the Convention. Specifically, if the status quo is maintained, they risk, through no fault of their own, not only double liability due to the conflicting court decisions in the Congo and U.S., but also the loss of their interests in the Convention and Permit (and thus the whole of their investment in Congo) either through a failure to comply with OHADA law or a failure to comply with the above-referenced Congo court orders. Accordingly, CMS Nomeco Congo Inc., The Nuevo Congo Company, and Nuevo Congo Ltd., in order to protect their legitimate business

interests, intend to convey their working interests. The purchasers will be companies to be formed under Congolese law. The consideration to be paid for the sales will be cash. Upon closing of the conveyances, the working interests under the Convention will be owned by the Congolese purchasers of the working interests, and the rights and obligations under the Convention and Joint Operating Agreement previously held and owed by the Working Interest Owner Garnishees will be held and owed by the Congolese purchasers and not the Working Interest Owner Garnishees.

8. In compliance with the May 20, 2003 Order of this Court, the Working Interest Owner Garnishees give notice to the Court and the parties of their intention to consummate the transactions described in this notice no earlier than thirty days from the date of this notice.

Respectfully submitted,

GUY S. LIPE

State Bar No. 12394600

VINSON & ELKINS L.L.P.

2300 First City Tower

1001 Fannin

Houston, Texas 77002-6760

(713) 758-1109

(713) 615-5607 fax

Attorneys For CMS Nomeco Congo Inc., The Nuevo Congo Company, and Nuevo Congo Ltd.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on July 18, 2005, a true and correct copy of the foregoing instrument was delivered to the following in the manner indicated:

Dillon J. Ferguson (Via Hand Delivery)
Phillip G. Oldham
Andrews & Kurth L.L.P.
600 Travis, Suite 4200
Houston, Texas 77002

Danforth Newcomb (Via Federal Express)
Shearman & Sterling
599 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Andrew L. Jefferson, Jr. (Via Hand Delivery) 1314 Texas Street, Suite 500 Houston, Texas 77002-3513

Roland Garcia (Via Hand Delivery) Greenberg Traurig, LLP 3200 Travis Street, Third Floor Houston, Texas 77006 Boaz S. Morag (Via Federal Express) Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton One Liberty Plaza New York, New York 10006

Guy S.

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PAGE 82/83 P. 2 P.2/2

MINISTERS DES HYDROCARBURES

MINISTERE DU COMMERCEO. DE LA CONSOMMATION ET DES APPROVISIONNEMENTS

0033153576332

Unité - Travail - Procesès

REPUBLIQUE DU CONGO

Brazzaville, le 1 8 MAI 2005

05x1 0431_MHC-CAB

Les Ministres.

Reyule 2 / MAI ZIED

CMS Nomeco Congo

POINTE-NOIRE

Objet: Obligation de constitution d'une société de droit congolais

Monsleur le Directeur Général.

Suivant les dispositions de l'article 33 du Code des Hydrocarbures, la société étrangère titulaire d'un titre minier peut s'implanter au Congo sous les formes juridiques de société de droit congolais ou de succursale immatriculée auregistre du commerce et du crédit mobilier.

Por nilleurs, l'article 170 de l'Acte uniforme relatif au dipit des sociétés commerciales et du groupement d'intérêt économique requiert de la société étrangère implantée en zone OHADA sous forme de succursale d'apporter, après deux années, ladite succursale à une société de droit de l'Elat d'implantation.

Les dispositions des actes uniformes OHADA prévalant sur celles du Code des Hydrocarbures, et voire société étant représentée ou Congo por une succursale depuis plus de deux ons, nous vous demandons par la présente de blen vouloir procéder, dans les melleurs délais, du remnianement de la succursale actuelle par une société de drait congolais.

Nous yous prions d'agréer, Monsieur le Directeur Général, l'expression de nos sentiments distingués.

Le Ministre d'Etal. Ministra des Hydrocorbures,

CONTROL TATI-LOUTARD

La Ministre du Commerce.

ÚNDĚLE NGOLO

EXHIBIT A

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PAGE 83/83 Nº 750

REPUBLIC OF CONGO Unity-Work-Promoss

MINISTRY OF HYDROCRARBONS

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE. CONSUMPTION AND SUPPLIES

Brazzaville, the 18 May 2005

Nº 05 x 0431/MHC-CAB

The Ministers. CMS Nomeco Congo

Pointe-Noire

Subject: Legal obligation to set up a company governed by Congolese law

To the attention of the Managing Director:

Pursuant to the provisions contained in article 33 of the Hydrocarbons Code a foreign company holding mining titles has the obligation to be domiciled in Congo either through a company governed by Congolese law or favough a subsidiary of a foreign company registered with the Registry of Companies and Lists.

Furthermore, stricle 120 of the OHADA Uniform Act on commercial companies and commercial interest groupings requires a foreign company operating in the OHADA zone under the form of a subsidiary for more then two years to transform the said subsidiary into a company governed by the relevant local law.

Consequently, since the provisions of the OHADA Uniform Act prevail over any provision of the Hydrocarbons Code and your company has been present in Congo through a subsidiary for more than two years we herby request the replacement of your subsidiary by a company governed by Congolese law.

Sincerely yours,

Minister of Hydrocarbons

Minister of Commerce, Communities and Supplies

Jean-Baptise TATI-LOUTARD

Abdelaye WOUNDELE NGOLO

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AUSTIN DIVISION FILED company FILED States

AF-CAP, INC.,

Plaintiff.

Civil Action No. A-01-CA-321-SS

THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO,

Defendant.

TURNOVER ORDER

In accordance with the Court's Pebruary 4, 2005, Order granting Plaintiff Af-Cap's Motion for Turnover Order, the Court hereby makes the following findings and enters the following Order pursuant to Ped. R. Civ. P. 69(a) and Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code § 31.002:

WHEREAS:

- A. The Connecticut Bank of Commerce (which assigned the judgment to Af-Cap and is referred to in the next two paragraphs as "Af-Cap") obtained a judgment from the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Kings on May 9, 2000, against the Defendant Republic of Congo ("Congo") in the amount of \$13,628,340.11, plus interest;
- B. Af-Cap registered its New York judgment as a Texas judgment pursuant to Tex. Civ. Prac. and Rem. Code § 35.003 on January 11, 2001;
- C. Af-Cap obtained and subsequently served multiple garnishment writs on, inter alia, CMS Nomeco Congo, Inc., The Nuevo Congo Company, and Nuevo Congo Ltd.,

EXHIBIT B

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(collectively the "Garnishees") in an effort to identify and execute on any amounts owed or to be owed to the Congo;

- D. The Garnishees filed answers to the writs stating that the Garnishees are successors to original parties to, and are the current owner of interests in, a Convention for the production of oil and gas in the Congo dated May 25, 1979 (the "Convention");
- E. Under the terms of the Convention, the Gamishees owe and pay oil royalties to the Congo;
- F. The Fifth Circuit has ruled that the royalty obligations owed to the Congo are, under 28 U.S.C. § 16 10(a), "property in the United States of a foreign state...used for a commercial activity in the United States";
- G. In December 1991, the Congo voluntarily agreed to the entry of a turnover order by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois providing, in pertinent part, that a portion of the royalties, payable in cash or in kind, due and owing under the Convention would be paid to a judgment creditor and that the Congo would issue a payment instruction to the entities owing the royalty obligation directing such payment until satisfaction of the judgment, including interest;
- H. The Congo is contractually obligated to consent to the enforcement of the judgment against any of its property, wherever located and intespective of its use or intended use;
- ¥
- I. A reasonable period of time has elapsed following the entry of judgment under 28 U.S.C. § 1610(c); and
- J. Af-Cap has demonstrated to the Court's satisfaction that the royalty obligations:
 (1) cannot readily be attached or levied upon by ordinary legal process under Tex. Civ. Prac. &

Rem. Code § 31,002(a)(1); and (2) are not exempt from execution for the satisfaction of the Congo's debt under Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code § 3 1.002(a)(2).

It is hereby ORDERED that:

- 1. Af-Cap is entitled to this Turnover Order against the Congo for the payment of \$13,628,340.11, plus post-judgment interest, from May 9, 2000 at a rate of nine percent (9%) per annum, as provided in the New York Civil Practice Law and Rules \$5,5003 & 5004.
- 2. The Court hereby takes possession and control of all future royalty obligations owed to the Congo under the Convention and this Order shall constitute a judgment lien upon the Congo's property interests in, and its rights to receive payment of, its royalty share from the Garnishees or other parties.
- 3. The Court further orders the Congo to turn over such royalty payments into the registry of the Court and to execute in three originals within three days the attached letter of instruction (Exhibit A) from the Congo to the parties who pay royalties under the Convention to the Congo revoking prior instructions regarding payment of royalty and instructing that the royalty be paid in cash into the registry of the Court. One executed original of such letter shall be filed with the Court, one shall be served on counsel for Af-Cap, and one shall be served on counsel for the Garnishees.
- 4. Until such time as the executed letters of instruction are filed and served as directed above, the Congo and all persons acting in concert with it, together with all persons having actual knowledge of this Order, are restrained and enjoined from transferring, concealing, or otherwise disposing of the Congo's interest in the property.

- Document 67-8
- All royalties paid into the registry of the Court shall be applied in favor of Af-Cap by the Clerk of the Court to satisfy the judgment in this case and any additional sums required to be paid by any Order of this Court.
- 6. The Court shall retain jurisdiction over this cause for the purpose of enforcing this Order.

day of Pebruary, 2005. SO ORDERED this 22

United States District Judge

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AUSTIN DIVISION

AF-CAP, INC.,

Plaintiff,

V.

THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO,

Defendant.

EXHIBIT A TO TURNOVER ORDER

CMS Nomeco Congo, Inc. Nuevo Congo Company Nuevo Congo, Ltd. c/o Their Counsel Mr. Guy S. Lipe Vinson & Elkins, L.L.P. 1001 Fannin, Suite 2300 Houston, Texas 77002-6760

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the Turnover Order entered by the United States District Court, the Republic of Congo ("Congo"), on its own behalf or through its lawfully authorized designee, hereby demands, directs, and elects that you pay into the registry of the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas in cash all mineral royalty due under the Joint Operating Agreement ("JOA") dated May 25, 1979 to The Republic of Congo in accordance with Articles 7 and 4.11, respectively, of the Convention regarding the Marine I Field dated May 25, 1979 ("the Convention") and the JOA. Any previous elections with respect to the payment of such royalty in kind are hereby revoked.

The amounts to be paid pursuant to the preceding paragraph shall include all royalty amounts currently owed by either you, your successors and assigns, or your affiliates, to the Congo pursuant to the JOA and Convention in respect of all periods beginning ninety days from the date of this letter. The payments made to the registry of the Court shall, to the extent thereof, be considered by the Congo as in fulfillment of your obligations, and shall be treated by the Congo as payment of the royalty for tax and other purposes.

This payment instruction shall be irrevocable except that it shall expire when payments to the Court's registry are no longer sequired by the terms of the attached Turnover Order entered by the U. S. District Court for the Western District of Texas.

Very truly yours,

Ву: _____

Dated: , 2005

2



Global Language Services

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CERTIFICATE OF ACCURACY

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED, that KERN Corporation, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, is professionally engaged in the rendering of foreign language translation services; that it has translated the following document(s)

LETTER DATED MARCH 3, 2005 REGARDING AF-CAP, INC. V. REPUBLIC OF CONGO

from the FRENCH language into the ENGLISH language and that the said translation is a true and correct rendering of the said document to the best of our knowledge and belief.

Signed by:

Subscribed to before me this

JOY N. WILTERMUTH

NOTARY PUBLIC, State of New York No. 01WI - 6093589

Qualified in New York County My Commission Expires June 2, 2007

EXHIBIT C

co: The Rues Building - 236 Montgomery Street, Suite 946 - San Francisco, CA 94104 Tel. (415) 433 \$376 - Fex (415) 483 5377 - Item.of © kerntrarieleffons.com

London: Tel. 011 44 (20 76 31 56 00 - Frankfurt: Tel. 011 49 (98) 75 60 73-0 - Berlin: Tel. 011 49 (90) 26 72 12 50 - Paris: Tel. 011 33 (1) 53 93 85 20 2urtch: Tel. 011 41 (1) 2 61 1180 - Hong Kong: Tel. 011 (65) 28 50 44 55 - Ameterdens: Tel. 011 31 (20) 6 39 01 19 - Lyon: Tel. 011 33 (4) 783 783 73

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRES AND FRANCOPHONY

REPUBLIC OF CONGO Unité - Travail - Progrès

CABINET

MAEF 0744 CAB.SP.

Brazzaville, 03 March 2005

MINISTER OF STATE

Re: Republic of Congo v. Af-Cap. Inc.

Dear Judge:

I refer to the order issued by this court on 22 February 2005 (the "Turnover Order"), which provides, inter alia:

- "The Court hereby takes possession and control of all future royalty obligations
 owed to the Congo under the Convention [for the production of oil and gas in the
 Congo dated May 25, 1979] and this Order shall constitute a judgment lien upon
 the Congo's property interests in, and its rights to receive payment of, its royalty
 share" from oil companies operating in the Congo under a concession granted by
 the Congo in the Convention;
- "The Court further orders the Congo to turn over such royalty payments into the
 registry of the Court and to execute... [a] letter of instruction... to the parties
 who pay royalties under the Convention to the Congo revoking prior instructions
 regarding payment of the royalty..."

This suit was initiated over four years ago with a view to persuading United States courts to authorize seizure of the Congo's rights to mining royalties, which it collects within its own territory, in satisfaction of a debt purchased by a creditor without any right to said mining royalties. The Congo has strongly objected to this litigation, which is unfounded. It is premised on the erroneous notion that an American court may transfer the right of a sovereign nation—the Republic of Congo—to dispose of its resources within its own borders. The Republic of Congo has thus far endeavored to cooperate with United States judicial authorities in the hope that United States courts would recognize their obligation to respect the Congo's sovereignty, as is mandated not only under Congolese and international law, but under United States law as well.

In light of the judgments of this Court and the Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, the Congo is constrained to protest in the strongest possible terms the failure to

:05-cv-00762-SLR

respect its sovereign rights and the resulting judicial measures that purport to dispossess the Congo of economic rights comprising its national patrimony and principal source of export revenue. It is an established principle of the law of nations that every state exercises full and permanent sovereignty over its natural resources and exclusive authority to control the economic exploitation thereof. The Congo's rights to the mining royalties within its territory are subject to its exclusive jurisdiction and sovereignty, which cannot be subordinated to the judicial measures of another state.

The Turnover Order issued by this Court is a clear violation by the United States of international law which recognizes the right for any sovereign State to exercise authority and control over its natural resources within its national territory. Such actions impact negatively on the relations between the United States and the Congo, undermining , the concerted mutual efforts of both nations to encourage private United States entities to invest in the Congo, in particular in the oil sector. This unfortunate development requires the Congo to reassess its relations with the United States, particularly where other sources of trade and investment such as Canada, Europe, India and China continue to respect the sovereignty of the countries with which they maintain an economic relationship.

The Turnover Order is unenforceable in the Congo, and cannot supersede the Congo's sovereign authority to prescribe and enforce its own laws within its own territory. Regretfully, the Congo must hereby advise the Court that, for the reasons stated, the Congo will not implement the Turnover Order.

Please accept, Your Honor, the expression of my most distinguished consideration.

> [seal: Minister of Foreign Affaires and Francophony Cabinet Republic of Congo]

[signature]

Rodolphe Adada

Hon. Sam Sparks United States District Judge United States District Court for The Western District of Texas Austin, Texas

U.S.A.

copy: Hon. William H. Taft, IV · United States Department of State MINISTERE DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES ET DE LA FRANCOPHONIE République du Congo Unité -- Travail - Progrès

CABINET

MAEF 0 7 4 KABSP.

Brazzaville le 0.3 MARS 2005

LE MINISTRE D'ETAT.

Objet : République du Congo c. Af-Cap.Inc

Monsieur le Juge,

Je me réfère à l'Ordonnance de votre tribunal rendue le 22 février 2005 (the «Turnover Order », qui décide notamment :

- * The Court hereby takes possession and control of all future royalty obligations owed to the Congo under the Convention [for the production of oil and gas in the Congo dated May 25, 1979] and this Order shall constitute a judgment lien upon the Congo's property interests in, and its rights to receive payment of, its royalty share" from oil companies operating in the Congo under a concession granted by the Congo in the Convention;
- "The Court further orders the Congo to turn over such royalty payments into the registry of the Court and to execute...[a] letter of instruction ...to the parties who pay royalties under the Convention to the Congo revoking prior instructions regarding payment of the royalty...

Cette procédure a été initiée par les demandeurs il y a plus de quatre ans dans le but de convaincre les tribunaux américains d'autoriser la saisie des droits du Congo sur la redevance minière qu'elle perçoit sur son propre territoire, en paiement de droits d'un créancier au titre d'une dette du Congo sans rapport avec un droit quelconque sur cette redevance minière. Le Congo a vigoureusement contesté cette action judiciaire, laquelle est sans aucun fondement. Elle repose sur l'hypothèse erronée qu'un tribunal américain pourrait aliéner le droit d'un Etat souverain, la République du Congo, de disposer de ses ressources à l'intérieur de son propre territoire. La République du Congo a jusqu'à présent coopéré avec les autorités judiciaires américaines dans l'espoir que les tribunaux américains admettraient leur obligation de respecter la souveraineté du Congo, comme le leur impose le droit international, le droit congolais ainsi que le droit des Etats-Unis d'Amérique.

Compte tenu des jugements rendus par votre tribunal et par la Court of Appeals surfat the Fifth Circuit, le Congo se volt contraint de protester vigoureusement contre le mesures judiciaires qui visent à le déposséder de droits économiques qui font partie de son patrimoine national et qui constituent sa principale source de revenus à l'exportation. Le droit international public établit clairement le principe selon lequel chaque Etat a le droit d'exercer une souveraineté entière et permanente sur ses ressources naturelles, et dispose du droit exclusif d'en contrôler l'utilisation économique. Les droits du Congo sur la redevance minière à l'intérieur de son territoire sont du ressort de sa souveraineté exclusive, laquelle ne peut en aucun cas faire l'objet de mesures judiciaires de la part d'un autre Etat.

Le Turnover Order émis par votre tribunal constitue une violation patente de la part des Etats-Unis du droit international, lequel consacre le droit pour chaque Etat souverain de gérer ses ressources naturelles à l'intérieur de son territoire rational. De telles actions affectent négativement les relations entre les Etats-Unis et le Congo et les efforts mutuels de ces deux nations pour encourager les sociétés américaines à investir au Congo, en particulier dans le domaine pétroller. Ce regrettable développement met le Congo dans l'obligation de réexaminer ses relations économiques avec les Etats-Unis en tenant compte notamment que d'autres pays partenaires commerciaux, au Canada, en Europe, en Inde et en Chine respectent la souveraineté des pays avec lesquels ils entretiennent des relations économiques.

Le Turnover Order est de nul effet au Congo et ne saurait prévaloir sur l'autorité souveraine de notre pays d'appliquer ses propres lois sur son territoire. J'al donc le regret de vous informer que, pour les raisons indiquées dans la présente lettre, la République du Congo rejette le Turnover Order.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Juge, l'expression de ma considération distinguée.



Hon. Sam Sparks
United States District Judge
United States District Court for
The Western District of Texas
Austin, Texas

U.S.A.

Copie: Hon. William H. Taft, IV

United States Department of State

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AUSTIN DIVISION

2005 AP -6 AM 10: 44
U.S. CLERK'S OFFICE AAS

AF-CAP, INC.

Plaintiff,

-VS-

Case No. A-01-CA-321-SS

THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO,

Defendant.

ORDER

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 1st day of April 2005, the Court called the above-styled cause for a hearing on Plaintiff Af-Cap, Inc.'s ("Af-Cap") Motion for Issuance of a Show Cause Order [#129], and the parties appeared through counsel. On February 22, 2005, the Court entered a turnover order against Defendant Republic of Congo ("the Congo"), in which the Congo was ordered to execute, within three days of receiving the Court's order, certain letters of instruction addressed to third parties (specifically, CMS Nomeco Congo Inc., the Nuevo Congo Company, and Nuevo Congo, Ltd.) regarding its right to receive payment of royalty obligations under a May 25, 1979 Convention for the production of oil and gas. The purpose of the letters was to redirect the Congo's interest in the Convention royalty obligations to the Clerk of this Court until a judgment held by Af-Cap against the Congo was satisfied. Because the Congo refused to execute the instruction letters, the Court subsequently ordered the Congo to appear at a hearing on April 1, 2005, at which time its authorized representative would be required to execute the letters of instruction and to show cause why the Congo should not be held in contempt of Court. No representative of the

In 1979, the Congo issued a permit to drill offshore to its state-owned oil company, the Societe Nationale de Petrol du Congo ("SNPC"). On May 25, 1979, in order to exploit the permit, the Congo and SNPC entered into a joint venture with various oil companies to produce oil and gas ("the Convention").

Congo capable of signing the letters of instruction appeared before the Court. However, counsel for the Congo did appear, both in person and by telephone, to argue on its behalf. Having considered the pleadings filed by the parties, the arguments of counsel at the hearing, the relevant law, and the case file as a whole, the Court now enters the following:

In light of the Congo's failure to comply with the February 22, 2005 Turnover Order entered by this Court, Af-Cap arges the Court to grant further appropriate relief to enforce the Court's Turnover Order. Although, in its papers, Af-Cap proposed multiple, alternative forms of relief for the Court's consideration (including contempt sanctions), at the hearing, Af-Cap took the position that an order pursuant to Rule 70 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure would be the most effective and efficient means of enforcing this Court's Turnover Order.

Under Rule 70, Af-Cap urges the Court to enter an order directing the Clerk of this Court to sign the required letters of instruction on the Congo's behalf. Rule 70 provides, in pertinent part:

If a judgment directs a party to execute a conveyance of land or to deliver deeds or other documents or to perform any other specific act and the party fails to comply within the time specified, the court may direct the act to be done at the cost of the disobedient party by some other person appointed by the court and the act when so done has like effect as if done by the party.

FED. R. CIV. P. 70. Under the plain language of the rule, the Court may order a third person to do the act which the Congo refuses to do. Other courts have granted similar relief. For instance, in a case arising in the Seventh Circuit, the Clerk of the District Court for the Northern District of Illinois executed real estate deeds after the defendant refused to comply with the district court's order requiring him to execute the deeds. *Varone v. Varone*, 392 F.2d 855, 856 (7th Cir. 1968). Similarly, in *United States v. Fitzgerald*, 109 F.3d 1339 (8th

Cir. 1997), the district court ordered the United States Marshal to convey a deed on foreclosed property belonging to the defendant in the case after the defendant refused to make the conveyance himself. *Id.* at 1341. In both cases, the Court was able to get around the recalcitrance of the individual defendant by ordering its own designee to perform the required ministerial act.

The Congo, for its part, indicated at the hearing it has no particular objection to the specific Rule 70 relief sought by Af-Cap. Instead, the Congo has made only general objections to the Court's entry of further relief in favor of Af-Cap, which are largely based on its continuing objections to the turnover order already entered in this case. First, the Congo argued the decision by the Fifth Circuit that the underlying property in this case is located in the United States was incorrect. Apparently convinced the Supreme Court would grant a writ of certiorari, the Congo urged the Court to await the outcome of its appeal of the Fifth Circuit's decision prior to taking further action. According to the Supreme Court's official website, on April 4, 2005, the Supreme Court denied the Congo's petition for certiorari. Thus, there is no doubt the Fifth Circuit's mandate will remain the final word on the location of the property at issue in this case.²

Second, the Congo argues the Court's Turnover Order itself is not entitled to legal force and effect because of sovereignty considerations and the act of state doctrine.

² The Congo has also argued"[t]his Court's turnover order directly against the Congo . . . lacks even the tenuous basis on which the Fifth Circuit deemed the property 'in the United States." Def.'s Opp. to Mot, for Issuance of a Show Cause Order at 4. The Congo's position is apparently that since the Fifth Circuit focused its opinion on the garnishment relief sought in A-01-CA-100-SS ("the 100 case"), rather than the turnover relief sought in this case, see Af-Cap, Inc. v. Republic of Congo, 383 F.3d 361, 373 (5th Cir. 2004), its holding is somehow inapplicable to the latter form of relief. What the Congo fails to recognize, however, is that the Pifth Circuit's consolidation of the appeals of those two actions means the Fifth Circuit's conclusions about the location of the property are binding in both the 100 case and this case. See id. ("We also hold that the situs of these obligations is the United States.").

However, these arguments have already been made and rejected in connection with both the Court's initial issuance of the Turnover Order and the Court's denial of the Congo's recent motion for a stay. The Court sees no need to separately address these arguments again here.

Third, the Congo argues the act of state doctrine independently precludes the issuance of contempt sanctions against it. However, since the relief now urged by Af-Cap is an alternative to a contempt sanction, the Court need not address the merits of the Congo's last argument.

Accordingly:

IT IS ORDERED that the Clerk of the Court is hereby appointed pursuant to Rule 70 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and directed to execute the letter of instruction appended to the Court's Turnover Order of February 22, 2005. One executed original of the letter shall be placed in the Court's file. Copies of the executed letter shall be served on counsel for the Congo. One executed original of the letter shall be delivered by the Clerk to Steve McConnico, counsel for Af-Cap. One executed original of the letter shall be delivered to Guy Lipe, counsel for CMS Nomeco Congo Inc., the Nuevo Congo Company, and Nuevo Congo, Ltd. The execution of the instruction letters by the Clerk shall have like effect as if done by the Congo as authorized by Rule 70.

SIGNED this the ____ day of April 2005.

SAM SPARKS

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AUSTIN DIVISION

FILED

APR 1 1 200

AF-CAP, INC.

Plaintiff,

CLERIK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

-VS-

Case No. A-01-CA-321-SS

THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO,

Defendant.

CMS Nomeco Congo, Inc. Nuevo Congo Company Nuevo Congo, Ltd. c/o Their Counsel Mr. Guy S. Lipe Vinson & Elkins, L.L.P. 1001 Fannin, Suite 2300 Houston, Texas 77002-6760

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the Turnover Order entered by the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, the Republic of Congo ("Congo"), on its own behalf or though its lawfully authorized designee, hereby demands, directs, and elects that you pay into the registry of the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas in cash all mineral royalty due under the Joint Operating Agreement ("JOA") dated May 25, 1979 to the Republic of Congo in accordance with Articles 7 and 4.11, respectively, of the Convention regarding Marine I Field dated May 25, 1979 ("the Convention") and the JOA. Any previous elections with respect to the payment of such royalty in kind are hereby revoked.

The amounts to be paid pursuant to the preceding paragraph shall include all royalty amounts currently owed by either you, your successors and assigns, or your affiliates, to the Congo pursuant to the JOA and Convention in respect of all periods beginning ninety days from the date of this letter. The payments made to the registry of the Court shall, to the extent thereof, be considered by the Congo as fulfillment of your obligations, and shall be treated by the Congo as payment of the royalty.

EXHIBIT E

CC. Fox

This payment instruction shall be irrevocable except that is shall expire when payments to the Court's registry are no longer required by the terms of the attached Turnover Order entered by the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas.

By order of the Court,

William G. Putnicki,

Clerk of Court

Dated: Class B

NAW TREET

HA DELLE CONSOLATE

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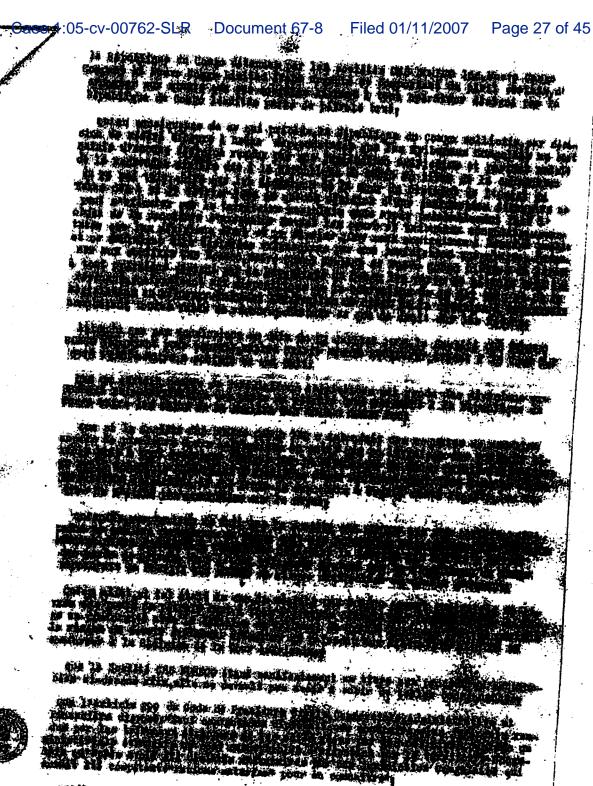
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EXHIBIT F

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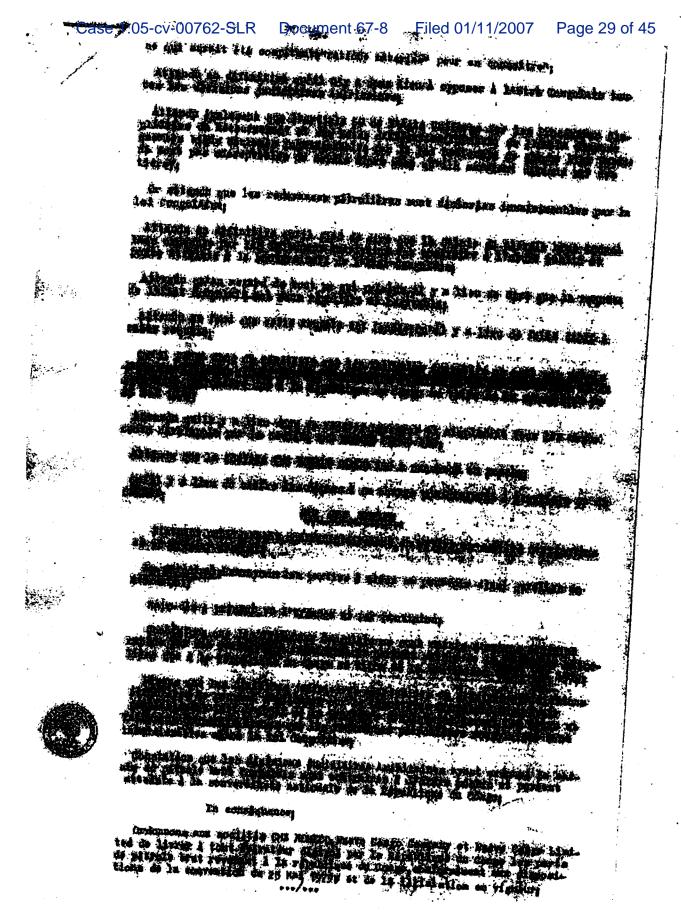
Case 1:05-cv-00762-SLR Document 67-8 Filed 01/11/2007 Page 28 of 45 chies à lesves la sectit till follo colds tild con la labolitation du soulle par la leuchte réspondur le grants différenties le le grants de le grants de le constant de le c Transfer to Market Land Branch Branch Branch

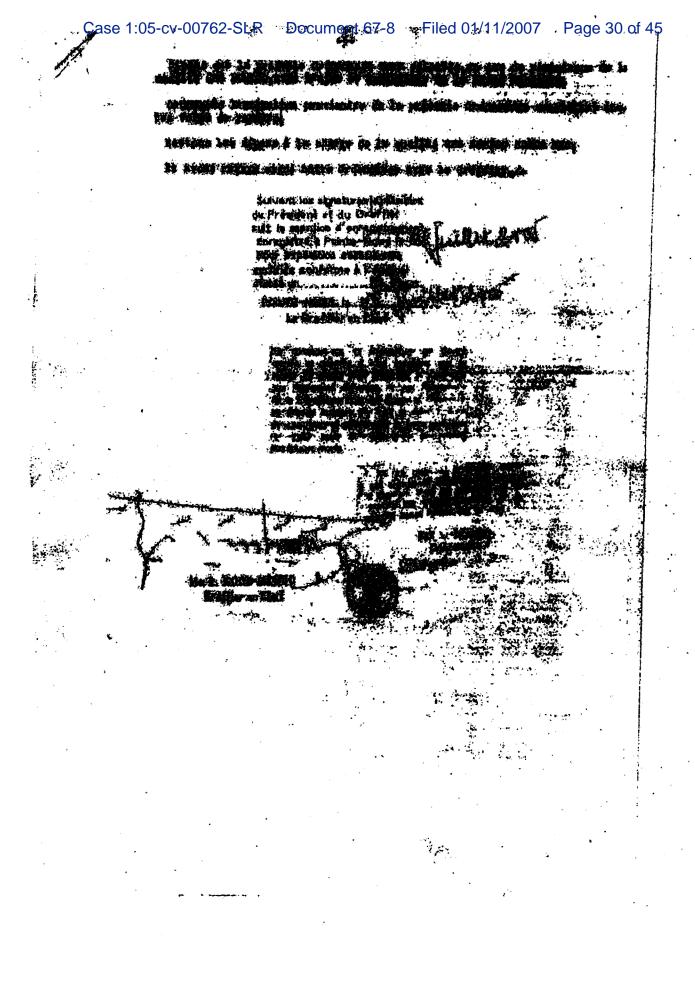
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EXECUTION COPY

ORDER

F No. 251

CIVIL LIST No. 546 YEAR: 2005

REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO ON BEHALF OF THE CONGOLESE PEOPLE

REGISTER No. 477 OF JULY 4, 2005

In the year two thousand five; And on the fourth day of July;

Before us, Norbert Elanga, Presiding Judge of the Pointe-Noire Court of First Instance, holding an urgent public hearing in our Chambers in the Courthouse of said city;

With assistance from Marc Etiki, Attorney, Head Registrar of the Civil Sections of said Court;

With reference to the motion dated July 2, 2005 in Point Noire from the Republic of the Congo, Ministry of Hydrocarbons, with Irène Josiane Okoko, Hervé Obongui Nguie and Nadia Maconso as Legal Counsel, Attorneys at Law, B.P. 5137, Pointe-Noire;

Whereas in support of its motion, it stated: whereas AF CAP (which holds a claim against the Republic of the Congo according to a decision of the Supreme Court of the State of New York of May 9, 2000) based on the decisions of February 4 and 22, 2005 of the District Court, Western District of Texas, Austin Division, United States of America, CMS Nomeco Inc., Nuevo Congo Company and Nuevo Congo Limited do not intend to allow the removal of the shares of crude oil that correspond to the royalties owed to the Republic of the Congo under the hydrocarbons production agreement of May 25, 1979;

Whereas the decisions of February 4 and 22, 2005 provide for the Court's control over the tax royalties owed to the Republic of the Congo, the payment of said royalties in each to the Registrar of the Court in favor of AF CAP as payment of AF CAP's claim against the Republic of the Congo and of any additional sum the Court may order. These decisions also prohibit the Republic of the Congo and any person with knowledge of these decisions from conveying, concealing or alienating the Republic of the Congo's interests;

But whereas these decisions could not be executed in the Republic of the Congo;

Whereas, actually, a court decision handed down by a foreign jurisdiction, even when the obligor has renounced its immunity of jurisdiction and execution, cannot be executed inso jure in a foreign country; whereas, to be executed, it must be submitted to the procedure for authorizing execution as provided for by Article 299 of the Code of Civil, Commercial, Administrative and Financial Procedure, according to which: "unless there are diplomatic conventions that stipulate otherwise, decisions handed down by foreign courts and instruments received by foreign public or ministerial officers can be executed in the territory of the Congo only after having been declared enforceable by a Congolose jurisdiction that had ratione materiae jurisdiction to take cognizance thereof;"

Whereas in this case, the Republic of the Congo was not notified of the U.S. decisions of February 4 and 22, 2005, and whereas neither AF CAP, alleged obligee of the Republic of the Congo, nor CMS Nomeco Inc., Nuevo Congo Company and Nuevo Congo Limited, third parties garnished, filed a motion with the Congolese Courts for the authority to execute the same U.S. decisioss;

Whereas Article 50 of the Uniform Act Organizing Simplified Recovery Procedures and Measures of Execution stipulates that property declared not subject to gamishment by the national law of each Contracting State may not be gamished even though it may be held by third parties;

Page 32 of 45

Document 67-8

Whereas the garnishment ordered by the U.S. jurisdiction is in conflict with International Public Order and the Republic of the Congo's sovereignty in that it is aimed at tax royalties, by their nature not subject to garnishment, and it interferes with the Republic of the Congo's exercise of its sovereignty in matters of taxation;

Whereas, therefore, since the issue of the delivery of any operator designated by the Republic of the Congo's shares of crude oil held by CMS Nomeco Inc., Nuevo Congo Company and Nuevo Congo Limited is urgent and contains a certain peril, it is important to immediately order these companies to deliver said shares of crude oil to any operator designated by the Republic of the Congo;

Whereas based on the foregoing, the Republic of the Coago is requesting that, by urgent decision, the Court: - find that the Congolese Courts have not received any decision from a U.S. jurisdiction on the garnishment of the mining royalty owed to the Republic of the Congo's under the agreement of May 25, 1979; - find that the decisions of the District Court, Western District of Texas, of February 4 and 22, 2005 or that a decision from a foreign jurisdiction cannot be executed in Congolese territory without first having been the subject of the procedure of authority to execute before the Courts and Tribunals of the Court; find that the decisions of February 4 and 22, 2005 conflict with the public order and could not be declared enforceable by a Congolese jurisdiction; - order CMS Nomeco, Nuevo Congo Company and Nuevo Congo Limited to deliver the shares of crude oil to any operator designated by the Republic of the Congo, which is owed those shares in accordance with the provisions of the agreement of May 25, 1979 and the laws in effect; - order the ipso jure execution of the decision to be handed down notwithstanding any appeals; - rule on the costs as required by law;

Whereas in briefs dated July 2, 2005, CMS Nomeco Congo Inc., with Sylvie Nicole Mouyecket as Legal Counsel, P.O. Box 5316, Pointe-Noire, reacted as follows:

Whereas a certain number of U.S. jurisdictions have handed down decisions ordering the immobilization of shares of crude oil owed to the Republic of the Congo held by CMS Nomeco Congo Inc;

Whereas CMS Nomeco Congo. Inc. filed motions to have the proceedings terminated with several U.S. courts on the grounds that its delivery of the shares of crude oil to any operator designated by the Republic of the Congo would be compulsory under Congolese law, notwithstanding the existence of a decision to the contrary from a U.S. jurisdiction, and whereas one of the Courts has dismissed this motion, and the others have not ruled on the subject;

Whereas finally, in view of the fact that CMS Nomeco is a U.S. company, and that the proceedings in progress are U.S. proceedings, a decision from a Congolese jurisdiction requiring CMS Nomeco to deliver shares of crude oil to any operator designated by the Republic of the Congo would render CMS Nomeco liable to the risk of remitting double payment;

Whereas in fact, if such were the case, CMS Nomeco would be forced to deliver shares of crude oil to any operator designated by the Republic of the Congo in accordance with the decision of the Court of First Instance and would run the risk of also having to remit a payment to the United States to be in compliance with the decision of the U.S. Court;

Whereas CMS Nomeco is obviously a third party to the proceedings mentioned above, it should not have to be subjected to such consequences;

Whereas Article 299 of the Code of Civil, Commercial, Administrative and Financial Procedure provides that: "Unless there are diplomatic conventions that stipulate otherwise, judgments handed down by foreign courts and official instruments by foreign public or ministerial officers may not be executed in the Congo until they have been declared enforceable by a Congolese jurisdiction that has ratione materiae jurisdiction to take cognizance thereof;"

Whereas from this code it emerges that authority to execute is required only for decisions of foreign jurisdictions executed in Congolese territory;

Whereas the decisions of the District Court of the United States, Western District of Texas, were handed down, served and executed in the United States;

Whereas only the effects of this execution, carried out in the United States, are felt in the Congo through CMS Nomeco Congo Inc.;

Whereas the Republic of the Congo could not provide evidence of any instrument of execution whatsoever carried out in the Congo by AF-CAP, the U.S. company;

Whereas under these conditions, the Republic of the Congo cannot make valid use of the argument that its obligee observed the procedure for the authority to execute as though it were executing its decision in Congolese Territory;

Whereas the Republic of the Congo further supports its motion by the immunity from garnishment it enjoys under the law, in particular from Article 50 of the OHADA Uniform Act Organizing Simplified Recovery Procedures and Measures of Execution and Article 77 of the Charter of Government Corporations:

Whereas, however, it was noted above that CMS Nomeco Congo Inc. is only "a third party holder" of the shares of crude oil disputed by AF-CAP Inc., the U.S. Company, and the Republic of the Congo, pursuant to the U.S. decisions dated February 4 and 22, 2005, respectively;

Whereas the fact that CMS Nomeco has immobilized these shares of crude oil due to the decisions of the U.S. jurisdictions does not mean that CMS Nomeco Congo Inc. is a party effecting a gamishment;

Whereas CMS Nomeco Congo Inc. could not agree on this issue of immunity of garnishment that involves the main parties to the dispute, mainly AF-CAP Inc., the U.S. company, and the Republic of the Congo;

Whereas it is requesting that the Court: - find that a certain number of U.S. jurisdictions have handed down decisions ordering the immobilization of the shares of crude oil owed to the Republic of the Congo, now held by CMS Nomeco; - find that CMS Nomeco Congo is only a "third arty holder" of the immobilized shares of crude oil; - find that only the effects of this execution are felt in the Congo through CMS Nomeco; find that there is no instrument of execution whatsoever that has been carried out in Congolese territory;

Whereas consequently, find that that there is no reason to order the delivery of the shares of crude oil requested by the Republic of the Congo; and - order the Republic of the Congo to pay the costs;

BASED UPON WHICH, WE, THE JUDGE FOR URGENT MATTERS

Whereas the examination of the exhibits in the file shows that the U.S. court decisions that ordered the attachment of Congolese crude oil conflict with the Congolese laws in effect;

Whereas the Republic of the Congo is indeed a sovereign State and therefore a Government Corporation and Enterprise;

Whereas there is reason to apply to it the provisions of Article 30 of the OHADA Uniform Act Organizing Simplified Recovery Procedures and Measures of Execution which provides that "Compulsory distraint and preventive measures shall not apply to persons enjoying immunity from execution. However, any unquestionable debts due for payment belonging to public corporations or enterprises, regardless of their form and mission, may equally be compensated with unquestionable debts due for payment belonging to any person owing them, subject to reciprocity;"

[stamp: POINTE-NOIRE COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE Head Registrar]

Whereas furthermore, the decisions of the U.S. courts, including for the attachment of the Congolese crude oil, have not yet been authorized for execution;

Whereas in fact Article 299 of the Code of Civil, Commercial, Administrative and Financial Procedure (CPCCAF) provides that "Unless there are diplomatic conventions that stipulate otherwise, judgments handed down by foreign courts and official instruments by foreign public or ministerial officers may not be executed in the Congo until they have been declared enforceable by a Congolese jurisdiction that has ratione materiae jurisdiction to take cognizance thereof,"

Whereas ultimately, there is therefore no reason to use the decisions of the U.S. courts as arguments against the Congolese State;

Whereas, moreover, Article 50 of the OHADA Uniform Act Organizing Simplified Recovery Procedures and Measures of Execution (UAOSRPME) provides that "property declared not subject to attachment by the national law of each Contracting State may not be attached, even if it is held by third parties;

Yet, whereas the oil royalties are declared not subject to attachment by Congolese law;

Whereas ultimately, it should be found that the attackment of the Congolese crude oil ordered by the U.S. courts is in conflict with public order and interferes with the sovereignty of the Congolese State;

Whereas with regard to the foregoing, there is reason to find that the Congolese Republic's motion is in order and admissible:

Whereas, in substance, it is grounded; whereas there is reason to accept it;

Whereas it is therefore essential to find that the Congolese Courts have not received any decision handed down by a U.S. jurisdiction on the attachment of the oil royalty owed to the Republic of the Congo under the convention of May 25, 1979;

Whereas there is reason to unconditionally dismiss all the arguments made by Nomeco;

Whereas Nomeco Congo Inc. has lost the proceedings;

Whereas there is reason to require that it pay the costs in accordance with Article 57 of the CCCAFP:

NOW THEREFORE

Ruling in public based on the arguments of both parties on an urgent basis in a civil matter in the first instance;

On the merits, we refer the parties to enter an appeal as they shall advise;

But at this time, given the urgency and by way of advance;

We find that the Congolese Courts have not received any decision handed down by a U.S. jurisdiction on the attachment of the oil royalty owed to the Republic of the Congo under the convention of May 25, 1979;

We find that the U.S. court decisions or decisions of other foreign jurisdictions may not be executed in Congolese territory without first having been the subject of the procedure of the authority to execute with the Congolese Courts and Tribunals. We find that the Congolese oil royalties cannot be attached according to Congolese law;

[stamp: POINTE-NOIRE COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE Head Registrar]

We find that the U.S. court decisions that ordered the attachment of the Congolese crude oil are in conflict with the public order and interfere with the Republic of the Congo's national apprecianty;

Consequently:

We order CMS Nomeco, Nuevo Congo Company and Nuevo Congo Limited to deliver the shares of crude oil that are owed to any operator designated by the Republic of the Congo in accordance with the provisions of the agreement of May 25, 1979 and the laws in effect;

We require that this order be executed, and with the assistance of the law enforcement authorities in the event there is resistance;

We order the provisional execution of this order notwithstanding any appeals:

We order CMS Nomeco Congo Inc. to pay the costs.

And we have signed our Order with the Clerk,

The illegible signatures of the Presiding Judge and the Registrar follow. The recording follows. Recorded in Pointe-Noire on July 4, 2005 Certified true execution copy, checked against the original, 5 pages Pointe-Noire, July 5, 2005 Head Registrar

In consequence thereof: the Republic of the Congo orders its registrars, based upon this application, to execute said indement with the Attorneys General and Prosecuting Attorneys of the Appeals Courts and Courts of First Instance and to assist all commanders and law enforcement agencies and to assist them when they are required by

In witness whereof, this execution copy has been signed and scaled by the Head Registrar of the Pointe-Noire Court of First Instance and delivered by him in the form of an execution copy.

[signed]

By the Court Document Checked against the Original The Head Registrar

R. Koud-Okouo, Attorney **Head Registras**

POLE GIVEL Nº 547

REPUBLIQUE DU CONGO

Lian doux all sings AU NOM DU PEUPLE CONGOLAIS

REPERSONAL Nº476 DI 04-07-03

Par-devant nous Horbert Etruck Priedent du Pribust de Grande Instance de Pointe-Noire tenant audience publique des référée en notre Cabinet sie au Palais de Justine de cétée ville



Anniaté de Haitre Maro EFIKI, Greffier en Chef des Chambres Civiles audit Eri-

(/u la requête en date à Pointe-Hoiry du 02 Juillet 2005 de la Spoisté Mationa. Le des Pétroles du Congo(SMPS) ayant pour conseils Matrie Irène Josiane OKOMO, Harvé OBONGUI ROUIS et Média MACOSSO, Aroente à la Cour Bar 5837 Painte-Moire;

Attendu qu'à l'appai de se requite, elle exposerous se privalent de ce qu'elles out its exicte par la septit il thrétique de la privale de la limbe de l'appair par la republique du songe miyant que déciaien de la Cour imprèse de l'affic de Per l'ani, du 9 Mét 2000) par l'es décisions des à 2 fériles 2005 de la Geur de l'autrant de l'Ouest de Terms, divingem Austin, Bisha, d'aligne de la Seur de l'autrant de l'Unest de Terms, divingem Austin, Bisha, d'aligne de les personnes de Resson Inc. Nueve Coupe Colombily et Eures Coupe Lighted autractions aux personnes de la République ment des personnes de l'autrant proper le prédaition d'hydrosenteures du 25 met 1979.

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Que dans une lettre en date du 16 mm; 2005 la société Qis Monseo Ine déclare que les décisions suifrienines sont égalément applicables sun parts de pêtrole brut revenunt à la BEPO en titre de la convention du 25 Mai 1979;

Hain que des décipions ne poppagient être exécutées en République du Consol

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que l'article 50 de l'Acte Uniforme sur les Propidures Simplifiées de Regouvrement et des Voies d'Exignitos dispose que les biens diclarés inémisiesesples par la loi nationale de chaque Etat Partie ne sont pas subseptibles de calaie slors same qu'ils servient détenus par des tières

Que la maigie ordonnée par la juridiction américaine est contraire à la législation en vigueur en République du Congo; l'article 97 de la loi Nº13/84 du 14 maraightaine

EXHIBIT G

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1979;—ordons l'exiention de épids de la division à intervieur namberant toutes
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que un certain membre de juridictions Ambricaines del Ténde des didicions crdomant l'immédification des parts de pitrels brut revenint à la focisté Entionsle des Pétroles du Congo entre les mains de la Société Olf Mando Congo Esa;

que si la société CHE MONDO Codes Due est condemnée à livrer ses parts de particle brut à la Société Matiquelé des Pétroles du Cante en dirité du équient de la décision d'une Cour Astriguine, selle-si l'impie de se trouver sous la souvenire d'une divide de paissent.

Que la modistă (MS Momeso Congo: Ins a introduit des requites de non lien suprée de plusiques sours sufriçaines en motif que la litresiete des partir de pétrole brute à la Scalité hétitable des létroles du Congo avenis philophiles en Broit Congolale acapetant l'existence d'une décision contraits sammig d'une puridication autrinies et que l'une de que Cours a rejets cotte réquité les autres ne s'étent pas prononcées sur la sujeis:

Qu'enfin, compte tenu du fait que la cociété CHE MCHCCO SCHO LNC set une Société Amiriquine et que les procédures es cours sont des procédures Amiriquines, une décision émanunt d'une juridiction Coligebaise chligeant la Société CHE MARCO Congo Inu à livrer des parts de pétrale brut à la SRPC exponentit la société CHE MCHEGO SCHO INC en Piaque d'offestuar un épuble paiement;

Quien effet at tel statt le engla Société CMS NCMBOO COMO INC servit dontrain te de ligrer des perts de pétrols brot à la SNPO en équippité suès le décidion du Tribunal de Grande Enstance tout en sourent le risque de éfects farlement effairer un priment aux Rests-Unis aris de se conformér à la étation de la Com-Ambrionines



Que la Société MONEO COMBO INS étant manifestement un tiere dux procédures mentionnées el-dessus, elle se derruit pas evoir à ambir de telles conséquences;

Que l'artiele 299 du GPOAF dispose; "fauf conventions diplomitiques pontraires les jugements rendus per les tribusais étrangere et lès setes régis per les officiers publies ou minimérales étrangere se amb minesphilies d'imfention mur le territaire Congoleis étéspris evair été définrés exécutoires par une juridiction Congolités qui surait été comptents rations satéries "pour en éclishites";

qu'il ressort de ce texte que l'exequatur x'est requis que pour les décisions des juridictions étrangères exécutées sur le territoire Congolieis;

Que or les désistens de la Cour de District des Etate-Unis, District de l'Ouest

da Texis, att i... remines, significes et exignifes et exignifes sux Etats.Unis,

que seule les effets de estre extention opirie sun Ekas-Uniu mant resemblé au Congo à travers la segisté dus Ministe como l'Mis

Que la Secisté Mattemaie des Pétroles du Coupe ne asurait rapporter la preuve deux qualconque agée d'exécution accompli su Coupe par la Soutété Américaine AR-CAF

que la SHPC nonnétant en outre en demande per l'immuité de mainte dont elle hénistione de la loi poissement des articles 50 de l'écte Uniferne SHADL partent Organisation des Presidence: Simplistique de Resourgement des Grémess et des Youes d' Expension et 77 de la Charte des Entreprises d'Eints

que or il a sti pappali supra que la société CHE NOMECO Cango Inc. sient que timps ditantemm des parts de pétrale brut querellées entre la société finiricaine Aracia? Inc et la SEPO suite aux décisions Américaines en dates respectives du Ch et 22 Février 2005;

Que le fait pour la seclité CMS MCMCCO Congo Ino d'aveir immobilée cem parte de pétrole brut, maite mux décidions des juridistique Ambricainém, ne alguisité pas que la Société CMS NCMCCO Congo Inc révêt la qualité de sedataments

que la société CMS MCMCOO Congo Ine ne squreit opiner sur cette géoblicé d'inmunité de seisie qui intéresse les principales parties un létige metaunique la Secifté infrientes AF-CAT Ins et la ENPG:

Que le Juge saini, constatera que un certain nombre de juridictione Américaines ont rendu des décistems crédument l'impobilianties des pertir de pitrale deux récretain penson à le Ripublique du Senge entre les mins de la speisté du l'importé de par que la société dus Manno como im m'est que tiera détainem des partires de partir au Congo à travers la seciété dus Routo Congo Indiamente de l'entre de congo à travers la seciété dus Routo Congo Indiamente de l'américa que los que de d'exécution secondis sur le territaire un paginisée

Quien conséquence il dire my avoir livu à ordenner le livreison des parts de pâtrole brut sollicitée per le République du Congo; Condemnes le République du Congo sun dépense

SUR QUOI, NOUS JUGS DES REFERES

Attendo qu'il résulte de l'ermen des pièces du donnisrique la Société Matichale des pétroles du Congo SERC est une entreprise d'Etatiqués de têtre elle binéficie « de l'immunité de emisie prévue à l'ertiple ?? de le charte hatienne des entreprises d'Etat qui dispose quelles biens de l'entreprise d'Etat sont inemisississibles manf les one prévus par la procédure de liquidation de l'entreprise.

Attendo que dens ces conditions, il y s lieu de faire application des dispositions de l'article 30 de l'Asts Uniforme partent Procédures Simplifiées de Reconvenent : a et des Voies d'Exécution de l'OMAN;

Qu'en effet l'article 30 de l'Acte Uniforms sur les Predédures Simpléfiées de Recouvrement et des Voies d'Exécution de l'ONADA qui disposé que exécution forde et les mesures conservatoires ne sont pas applicables aux personnes qui binéficient d'une immunité d'exécution²:

Attendu qu'en l'ampèce, la SEPC est une entreprise d'Etat et binificie de l'immmité d'exécution,

qu'il y a lieu de lui appliquer les dispositions de l'artisle 30 de l'Aste Uni- : forme sur les Procédures Simplifiées de Resouvrement et des Voles d'Exécution de : l'OSADA;

Attendu Également que les décisions des Tribunaux Américains dont exécution, ne nont pas encore exéquaturées;

Attendu en effet que l'article 299 du Code de Procédure Civile Commerciale Admi- : nistrative et Financière (CPCCAF) dispose que " fauf conventions diplomatiques contrairentles jus nis rendus per les inidupux étrant et les miles jujus par un le territaire congulais qu'appès evely été définite enfaitolisés per une juritiotion congulaise qui expait été compétation de sont manufétéliés de uniquiton duritiotion congulaise qui expait été compétation miteriale pour en conscitur.

Attendu qu'i ce jour ni le binificiaire desdits jugements mi le société MCHECO . n'est emisi le juridisticu congolaise pour solliciter l'exiquatur desdites éjaisiones

Attendu en consiquence qu'il n'y a lieu dong à exécution desdites dicisions amirismines rendues:

Attendu qu'au regert de ce qui précède, il y a lieu de dire que la requite de la société SEPS est donc régulière et résérables.

Attendo au fond quielle est fondje:

Quill y a lieu dry faire droit;

Attendu qu'il y a lieu de rejetar parement et simplément tous les Arguments développés par la société MCMINO;

Attendo que la secista NORICO CONCO INC a mesqueba su procèsa

Qu'il y a lieu de mettre les dépass à se charge conforminent à l'exticle 57 du Dode de Procédure Civile, Commerciale, Administrative et Financialres

PAR CES HOTLES

Statuant publiquement, contradictoirement, an referé, en matière d'exécution et en premier ressort;

An principals Renvoyons les parties à mieux se pourvoir sinut qu'elles en sviss-

Hain des à présent, vu l'urgence et par provisions

Constituent que la Sipp est binificiaire de l'immuité d'enfoutions

Comutatous que les décisions judiciaires aséricaines rendues en la metière ne sont pas energe exéquaturées en Congo:

Constatons que lesdites décisions sont contraires à l'ordre public;

En consiguence;

Ordonnons aux sociétés CMS NONECO, hueve Congo Company et Ruevo Gongo Limited de livrer les parts de pétrole brut revenant à la SNPC conformiment aux dispositions de la convention du 25 Mai 1979;

Dispus que la présente ordonnence sera exécutée en one de résistance avec l'aide de la Forse Publiques

Ordomone l'exécution provincire de la présente ordonnance nonobatant toutes voies de recours:

Mettons les dipens à la charge de la société CRS MORECO COMGO INO

/

Hi avene signé notre dedermence avec le Greffierije

Suivent les signatures (e) illisibles du Président et du Greffier suit la mention d'enregistrement suit la mention d'enregistrement for expédition colletionnée cartifiée conforme à l'opiginal étable en.

POINTE-NOIRE IS US JULIEU SATS

THE CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF COURSE TRANSPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT

to the purpose of souther per filterance. There is not do blought of 15 to the period of the period

Me·R. KOUD-OKOUO
Gréffier en Chef

EXECUTION COPY

CIVIL LIST No. 547 YEAR: 2005 F No. 251

REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO ON BEHALF OF THE CONGOLESE PEOPLE

REGISTER No. 476 OF JULY 4, 2005

In the year two thousand five; And on the fourth day of July;

Before us, Norbert Elanga, Presiding Judge of the Pointe-Noire Court of First Instance, holding an urgent public hearing in our Chambers in the Courthouse of said city;

With assistance from Marc Etiki, Attorney, Head Registrar of the Civil Sections of said Court;

With reference to a motion dated July 2, 2005 in Point Noire from Société Nationale des Pétroles du Congo (SNPC), with Irène Josiane Okoko, Hervé Obongui Nguie and Nadia Macosso as Legal Counsel, Attorneys at Law, B.P. 5137, Pointe-Noire;

Whereas in support of its motion, it stated: whereas AF CAP (which held a claim against the Republic of the Congo according to a decision of the Supreme Court of the State of New York of May 9, 2000) carried out an attackment against Nuevo Congo Company and Nuevo Congo Limited, based on the decisions of February 4 and 22, 2005 of the District Court, Western District of Texas, Austin Division, United States of America, CMS Nomeco Inc., Nuevo Congo Company and Nuevo Congo Limited do not intend to allow the removal of the shares of crude oil that correspond to the royalties owed to the Republic of the Congo under the hydrocarbons production agreement of May 25, 1979;

Whereas the decisions of February 4 and 22, 2005 provide for the Court's control over the tax royalties owed to the Republic of the Congo, the payment of said royalties in each to the Registrar of the Court in favor of AF CAP as payment of AF CAP's claim against the Republic of the Congo and of any additional sum the Court may order. These decisions also prohibit the Republic of the Congo and any person with knowledge of these decisions from conveying, concealing or alienating the Republic of the Congo's interests;

Whereas in a letter dated May 16, 2005, CMS Nomeco Inc. represented that the U.S. decisions are applicable as well to the shares of crude eil due to the SNPC under the agreement of May 25, 1979;

But whereas these decisions could not be executed in the Republic of the Congo;

Whereas, actually, a court decision handed down by a foreign jurisdiction, even when the obligor has renounced its immunity of jurisdiction and execution, cannot be executed loss jure in a foreign country; whereas, to be executed, it must be submitted to the procedure for authorizing execution as provided for by Article 299 of the Code of Civil, Commercial, Administrative and Financial Procedure (CPCCAF), according to which: "unless there are diplomatic conventions that stipulate otherwise, decisions handed down by foreign courts and instruments received by foreign public or ministerial officers can be executed in the territory of the Congo only after having been declared enforcesble by a Congolese jurisdiction that had ratione materiae jurisdiction to take cognizance thereof;"

Whereas in this case, the SNPC was not notified of the U.S. decisions of February 4 and 22, 2005, and whereas neither AF CAP, alleged obliges of the Republic of the Congo, nor CMS Nomeco Inc., Nuevo Congo Company and Nuevo Congo Limited, third parties garnished, filed a motion with the Congolese Courts for the authority to execute the same U.S. decisions;

Whereas Article 50 of the Uniform Act Organizing Simplified Recovery Procedures and Measures of Execution stipulates that property declared not subject to garnishment by the national law of each State that is a Party may not be garnished even though it may be held by third parties;

Whereas the garaishment ordered by the U.S. jurisdiction is in conflict with the laws in effect in the Republic of the Congo; Article 77 of Law No. 13/81 of March 14, 1981, creating the Charter of Government Corporations, provides that the property of Government Corporations is not subject to garnishment;

Whereas, therefore, since the issue of the delivery of the SNPC's shares of crude oil held by CMS Nomeco Inc., Nuevo Congo Company and Nuevo Congo Limited is urgest and contains a certain peril, it is important to immediately order these companies to deliver to the SNPC its shares of crude oil;

Whereas consequently, based on the foregoing, the SNPC is requesting that, by urgent decision, the Court: - find that the Congolese Courts have not received any decision from a U.S. jurisdiction and on the garnishment of the SNPC's shares of crude oil under the agreement of May 25, 1979; - find that the decisions of the District Court, Western District of Texas, of February 4 and 22, 2005 or that a decision from a foreign jurisdiction cannot be executed in Congolese territory without first having been the subject of the procedure of authority to execute before the Courts and Tribunals of the Congo; - find that the decisions of February 4 and 22, 2005 conflict with the public order and could not be declared enforceable by a Congolese jurisdiction; - order CMS Nameco, Nuevo Congo Company and Nuevo Congo Limited to deliver the shares of crude oil to the SNPC, which is owed those shares in accordance with the provisions of the agreement of May 25, 1979; - order the ipso jure execution of the decision to be handed down notwithstanding any appeals; - rule on the costs as required by law;

Whereas in documents dated July 2, 2005, CMS Nomeco Congo Inc., with Sylvie Nicole Mouyecket as Legal Counsel, reacted as follows:

Whereas a certain number of U.S. jurisdictions have handed down decisions ordering the immobilization of shares of crude oil owed to Société Nationale des Pétroles du Congo held by CMS Nomeco Congo Inc;

Whereas if CMS Nomeco Congo. Inc. is ordered to deliver these shares of crude oil to Société Nationale des Pétroles du Congo despite the content of the decision of a U.S. Court, the SNPC may find itself under the constraint of a dual obligation for payment;

Whereas CMS Nomeco Congo. Inc. filed motions to have the proceedings terminated with several U.S. courts on the grounds that the delivery of the shares of crude oil to Société Nationale des Pétroles du Congo would be compulsory under Congolese law, notwithstanding the existence of a decision to the contrary from a U.S. jurisdiction, and whereas one of the Courts has dismissed this motion, and the others have not ruled on the subject;

Whereas finally, in view of the fact that CMS Nomeco Congo Inc. is a U.S. company, and that the proceedings in progress are U.S. proceedings, a decision from a Congolese jurisdiction requiring CMS Nomeco Congo Inc. to deliver shares of crude oil to the SNPC would render CMS Nomeco Congo Inc. liable to the risk of remitting double payment;

Whereas in fact, if such were the case, CMS Nomeco Congo Inc. would be forced to deliver shares of crude oil to the SNPC in accordance with the decision of the Court of First Instance and would run the risk of also having to remit a payment to the United States to be in compliance with the decision of the U.S. Court:

Whereas Nomeco Congo Inc. was obviously a third party to the proceedings mentioned above, it should not have to be subjected to such consequences;

Whereas Article 299 of the CPCCAF provides that: "Unless there are diplomatic conventions that stipulate otherwise, judgments handed down by foreign courts and official instruments by foreign public or ministerial officers may not be executed in the Congo until they have been declared enforceable by a Congolèse jurisdiction that has ratione materiae jurisdiction to take cognizance thereof;"

Whereas from this text it emerges that authority to execute is required only for decisions of foreign jurisdictions executed in Congolese territory;

Whereas the decisions of the District Court of the United States, Western District of Texas, were handed down, served and executed in the United States;

Whereas only the effects of this execution, carried out in the United States, are felt in the Congo through CMS Nomeco Congo Inc.;

Whereas Société Nationale des Pétroles du Congo could not provide evidence of any instrument of execution whatsoever carried out in the Congo by AF-CAP, the U.S. company;

Whereas the SNPC further supports its motion by the immunity from garnishment it enjoys under the law, in particular from Article 50 of the OHADA Uniform Act Organizing Simplified Recovery Procedures and Measures of Execution and Article 77 of the Charter of Government Corporations;

Whereas, however, it was noted above that CMS Nomeco Congo Inc. is only "a third party holder" of the shares of crude oil disputed by AF-CAP Inc., the U.S. Company, and the SNPC, due to the U.S. decisions dated February 4 and 22, 2005, respectively;

Whereas the fact that CMS Nomeco Congo Inc. has immobilized these shares of crude oil due to the decisions of the U.S. jurisdictions does not mean that CMS Nomeco Congo Inc. is a party effecting a garnishment;

Whereas CMS Nomeco Congo Inc. could not agree on this issue of immunity of garnishment that involves the main parties to the dispute, particularly AF-CAP Inc., the U.S. company, and the SNPC;

Whereas the Judge before whom the matter was brought shall find that a certain number of U.S. jurisdictions have handed down decisions ordering the immobilization of the shares of crude oil owed to the Republic of the Congo, now held by CMS Nomeco Congo Inc., whereas CMS Nomeco Congo Inc. is only a "third party holder" of the immobilized shares of crude oil; shall find that only the effects of this execution are felt in the Congo through CMS Nomeco Congo Inc., shall find that no execution whatsoever has been carried out in Congolese territory;

Whereas consequently, the Court shall find that that there is no reason to order the delivery of the shares of crude oil requested by the Republic of the Congo; and shall order the Republic of the Congo to pay the costs;

BASED UPON WHICH, WE THE JUDGE FOR URGENT MATTERS

Whereas the examination of the exhibits in the file shows that Société Nationale des Pétroles du Congo SNPC is a Government Corporation; whereas consequently it enjoys the immunity from garnishment stipulated in Article 77 of the National Charter of Government Corporations that provides that "the property of government corporations may not be garnished except in cases provided for by the procedure for the liquidation of the corporation;"

Whereas under these conditions, there is reason to apply the provisions of Article 30 of the OHADA Uniform Act Organizing Simplified Recovery Procedures and Measures of Execution;"

Whereas Article 30 of the OHADA Uniform Act Organizing Simplified Recovery Procedures and Measures of Execution provides that "enforcement and precautionary measures are not applicable to persons that enjoy immunity from execution;"

Whereas in this instance, the SNPC is a Government Corporation and enjoys immunity from execution:

Whereas there is reason to apply to it the provisions of Article 30 of the OHADA Uniform Act Organizing Simplified Recovery Procedures and Measures of Execution;

Whereas furthermore, the decisions of the U.S. courts, including execution, have not yet been authorized for execution;

Whereas in fact Article 299 of the Code of Civil, Commercial, Administrative and Financial Procedure (CPCCAF) provides that "Unless there are diplomatic conventions that stipulate otherwise, judgments handed down by foreign courts and official instruments by foreign public or ministerial officers may not be executed in the Congo until they have been declared enforceable by a Congolese jurisdiction that has ratione materiae jurisdiction to take cognizance thereof,"

Whereas as of today, neither the beneficiary of said decisions nor Nomoco have come before the Congolese courts to solicit the authority to execute said decisions;

Whereas consequently, there is therefore no reason to execute said U.S. decisions that have been handed down;

Whereas with regard to the foregoing, there is reason to find that the SNPC's motion is in order and admissible:

Whereas, in substance, it is grounded;

Whereas there is reason to accept it;

Whereas there is reason to unconditionally dismiss all the arguments made by Nomeco;

Whereas Nomeco Congo Inc. has lost the proceedings;

Whereas there is reason to require that it pay the costs in accordance with Article 57 of the Code of Civil, Commercial, Administrative and Financial Procedure;

NOW THEREFORE

Ruling in public based on the arguments of both parties on an urgent basis in a civil matter in the first instance:

On the merits, we refer the parties to enter an appeal as they shall advise;

But at this time, given the urgency and by way of advance;

We find that the SNPC does enjoy immunity from execution;

We find that the decisions of the U.S. Courts handed down in this matter have not yet been authorized for enforcement in the Congo;

We find that said decisions are in conflict with the public order;

Consequently:

[stame: POINTE-NOIRE COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE Head Registrar]

5

We order CMS Nomeco, Nuevo Congo Company and Nuevo Congo Limited to deliver the shares of crude oil that are owed to the SNPC in accordance with the provisions of the agreement of May 25, 1979;

We require that this order be executed, and with the assistance of the law enforcement authorities in the event there is resistance;

We order the provisional execution of this order notwithstanding any appeals;

We order CMS Nomeco Congo Inc to pay the costs.

And we have signed our Order with the Clerk,

The illegible signatures of the Presiding Judge and the Registrar follow. The recording follows.

Recorded in Pointe-Noire on July 4, 2005

Certified true execution copy, checked against the original, 5 pages Pointe-Noire, July 5, 2005

Head Registrar

In consequence thereof: the Republic of the Congo orders its registrars, based upon this application, to execute said judgment with the Attorneys General and Prosecuting Attorneys of the Appeals Courts and Courts of First Instance and to assist all commanders and law enforcement agencies and to assist them when they are required by law to do so.

In witness whereof, this execution copy has been signed and sealed by the Head Registrar of the Pointe-Noire Court of First Instance and delivered by him in the form of an execution copy.

[signed]

By the Court
Document Checked against the Original
The Head Registrar

R. Koud-Okouo, Attorney Head Registrar